



## **Day 1 in the books at 2016 Men's and Master Men's Canadian Fast Pitch Championships**

### **Defending champion Galway Hitmen win big on opening day**

On Day 1 at the 2016 Men's and Master Men's Canadians Fast Pitch Championships in St. John's, NL, the Galway Hitmen reminded softball fans why they are the four-time defending national champions.

After trouncing the Saskatoon Bridge City Sharks 13-0 in the morning match, the Hitmen returned to Pepperrell Field at the Caribou Memorial Softball Complex in the evening with a 14-0 rout of the Allvinston, Ont., Indians.

"We came in with a plan to smash balls. There's no doubt about it, we've got a huge, deep, hitting lineup," coach Mark Dwyer said after the second win.

"The key for us is for everyone to get going and we didn't think everyone would get going like they did. Thankfully they did and it's just so tough to get through our lineup and I think the guys feed of that. They hit relaxed and they know we have so much depth that they're comfortable in the box."

No Hitmen player was more relaxed at the dish than Brad Ezekiel, who finished the day with five hits — including two home runs — four RBI, one walk, and a stolen base.

"That's just Bradley being Bradley," said Dwyer. "He hits like that in the St. John's senior league, he hits like that at the World Championships and at the Canadians Championships. He puts up little league numbers in a men's game."

The Indians lopsided loss came on the heels of a dramatic 7-6 9-inning win over the Sharks, but head coach Paul McCart insists the emotional high from an extra-inning victory and a quick turnaround to take on the defending champs didn't play into his team's downfall.

“Against a team like that if you don’t play well defensively, you’re not going to win, you’re not even going to be in the game. We made a lot of mistakes defensively and we only had one hit,” McCart explained.

“You have to play perfect defence and get a few hits to even stay in a game with that team and we didn’t do either. We didn’t give ourselves a chance.”

Hitmen ace pitcher Sean Cleary was his usual self on the mound, giving up one hit and striking out nine over five innings of work. Michael Legace Roote — who had the only hit off Cleary — took the loss and Travis Jones tossed in relief.

On Thursday evening at 6:30 p.m., the Master Men’s tournament gets underway when Newfoundland’s 3Cheers Pub takes on Ontario’s Mississauga Rusty Jiggers Diamond No. 2.

Wednesday’s full results were as follows:

### **Game 1**

• Kelly’s Pub Molson Bulldogs 10, Bulyea Rustlers 2 (5 innings)

WP: Kyle Linton (5IP, 2R, 5H, 3BB, 6K)

LP: Scott Lieph (2IP, 8R, 3H, 4BB, 0K)

RP: Greg Hill (1IP)

RP: Bryan Newton (1IP)

TB: Bulldogs — Mathieu Roy (1-3, 2RBI, 1R), Stephen Jesso (1-3, 2R-HR) Colin Walsh (1-3, 2R); Rustlers — Dean Holoien (1-3, R, RBI), George Flotre (1-1, RBI)

### **Game 2 (At Lions Park)**

• Chetty’s Pretty Boys 3, East Hants Mastodons 2

WP: Dustin Keshane (7IP, 2R, 5H, 14K)

LP: Justin Schofield (3R, 8H, 2BB, 12K)

TB: Pretty Boys — Braden Reiger (2-4, RBI), Jr. Isaac (Game-winning HR in top 6); Mastodons — Jason Sanford (2-3), Patrick Stewart (1-3, HR)

### **Game 3**

• Galway Hitmen 13, Saskatoon Bridge City Sharks 0 (5 innings)

WP: Robbie Greene (5IP, 1H, 3B, 9K)

LP: Chris Teichreb (1.2IP, 8R, 9H, 1BB, 2K)

RP: Zach Pierce (3.1IP, 5R, 6H, 3W, 1K)

TB: Hitmen — Shane Boland (3-4, 2R, 2RBI), Ryan Boland (2-3, R, 2RBI), Justin Gill (2-3, 2R), Steve Mullaley (2-2, 2R, RBI); Sharks — Brandon Dauvin (1-2)

### **Game 4**

• Bulyea Rustlers 7, WMC/The Bigs Bombers 0 (5 innings)

WP: Bryan Newton (5IP, 2H, 3W, 7K)

LP: Mark Power (3.2IP, 6R, 9H, 1BB, 7K)

RP: Johnny O'Reilly (.2IP, 1R, 1H, 1K)

TB: Rustlers — Jon Krahenbil (2-3, 2R, RBI), Troy Gordon (1-3, R, RBI), Justin Sievert (1-2, R, RBI); Bulldogs — Bryan Abrey (1-2), Christopher Murphy (1-2)

### **Game 5**

• Saskatoon Poly Plus Angels 9, Kitchener Hallman Cubs 0 (5 innings)

WP: Devon McCullough (5IP, 3H, 4BB, 12K)

LP: Scott Wagar (4IP, 7R, 4H, 1K)

RP: John Baker (1IP, 2R, 2H, 1BB)

TB: Angels — Casey Brooks (3-3, 2RBI), Devon McCullough (3R-HR), Brett Casey (2R-Triple)

### **Game 6**

• Allvinston Indians 7, Saskatoon Sharks 6 (9 innings)

WP: Travis Jones (NA)

LP: Jeff Farion (NA)

TB: Indians — Kris Walushka (1-3, 3R), Steve Loehndorf (2-4, 2RBI); Sharks — Brent Thompson (3-4, RBI), Michael Legace Roote (2-5, R, RBI), Jeff Lyons (2-4, R), Tyler Pauli (2-5, R, RBI)

Note: In bottom of the 9th, Jeff Lyons was placed on second as per ISF tiebreaker rule and advanced to third on wild pitch. After pair of walks loaded the bases, Michael Legace Roote hit a single to centrefield to send Lyons home with the winning run.

### **Game 7**

• Hitmen 14, Allvinston Indians 0 (5 innings)

WP: Sean Cleary (5IP, 1H, 9K)

LP: Michael Legace Roote (4.2IP, 13R, 15H, 3W, 5K)

RP: Travis Jones (.1IP, 1R, 2H, 1BB)

TB: Hitmen — Brad Ezekiel (4-4, 2R-HR, HR, 3RBI), Shane Boland (3-4, 2R), Steve Mullaley (2-3, 2RBI), Sheldon Keough (1-1, 3RBI-Triple), Kyle Ezekiel (3-4, 3RBI), Jeremy O'Reilly (2-2, RBI); Indians — Travis Jones (1-2)

### **Game 8**

• Pretty Boys 2, Bombers 1

WP/RP: Dustin Keshane (3IP, 1H, 3BB, 4K)

SP: Tony Sparvier (4IP, 1R, 3H, 1W, 7K)

LP: Joran Graham (6IP, 2R, 5H, 1BB, 10K)

TB: Pretty Boys — Jordie Gagnon (2-3, 2RBI); Bombers — Joran Graham (2-3), Kenny Gosse (1-2, R)

### **Game 9**

• Bulldogs 6, Angels 1

WP: Colin Walsh (7IP, 1R, 2H, 2BB, 12K, HPB)

LP: Trevor Eithier (7IP, 6R, 8H, 1BB, 4K)

TB: Bulldogs — Walsh (2-3, 2RBI), Mathieu Roy (2-3, 2RBI), Eddie Hefferan (2-3, 3R); Angels — Derek Arsenie (1-2, BB, HBP), Casey Brooks (1-3, RBI)

### Game 10

• Mastodons 6, Cubs 5

WP: Kyle Crawford (2.1IP, 4R, 3H, 2BB, 4K)

RP: Justin Schofield (4.2IP, 1R, 1BB, 7K, HBP)

TB: Mastodons — Jay Duffy (2-3, HR, 2RBI); Cubs — Dan Mitchell (2-3, R, 2RBI)

### Standings

TEAM	REC
Hitmen	2-0
Bulldogs	2-0
Pretty Boys	2-0
Angels	1-1
Rustlers	1-1
Indians	1-1
Mastodons	1-1
Sharks	0-2
Bombers	0-2
Cubs	0-2

### Thursday's games

#### Senior men's

##### Diamond No. 1

9:30 a.m., Pretty Boys at Bulldogs

11:30 a.m., Hitmen at Rustlers

1:30 p.m., Mastodons at Angels

4 p.m., Indians at Bombers

6 p.m., Pretty Boys at Hitmen

8 p.m., Cubs at Sharks

##### Diamond No. 2

10:30 a.m., Indians at Angels

12:30 p.m., Cubs at Bombers

2:30 p.m., Sharks at Bulldogs

4:30 p.m., Mastodons at Rustlers

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#### Master Men's

##### Diamond 2

6:30 p.m., 3Cheers Pub at Mississauga Rusty Jiggers

For those not in St. John's, NL this week, live tournament scoring and statistics are available through the official website [championship.softball.ca/mens/](http://championship.softball.ca/mens/) and games on Diamond No. 1 will be streamed live at [softballcanada.tv](http://softballcanada.tv) with play-by-

play and commentary courtesy Ballpark Broadcasting's Lance Winn and Blair Setford, along with special guests.

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